

Abstract

A drill pipe 10 comprises an elongate pipe section 12 having a substantially uniform pipe outer diameter 18 and a substantially uniform pipe inner diameter 20. A pin tool joint 14 is welded at one end to the pipe section, and a box tool joint 16 is 5 welded to the other end of the pipe section. Each of the pin and box tool joints includes a thread for mating engagement and preferably first and second shoulders. The drill pipe has a ratio,  $R$ , which takes into consideration the pipe inner diameter,  $P_{ID}$ , the pipe outer diameter,  $P_{OD}$ , the tool joint inner diameter,  $TJ_{ID}$ , and the tool joint outer diameter,  $TJ_{OD}$ . This ratio may be expressed as:

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$$R = \frac{(P_{ID} + TJ_{ID})}{(TJ_{OD} - P_{OD})}$$

15 According to the present invention, this ratio is greater than 8.0, and is preferably from 8.1 to 8.5, thereby providing a drill pipe with desired strength and fluid flow capabilities.

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